



HF 95 – Voter Photo Identification Requirement (LSB 1214HV)

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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

House File 95 requires all voters to show proof of identification before being allowed to vote at the polls. The Bill requires the proof of identification to include:

- The name of the person that matches the election register.
- A photograph of the person.
- An expiration date that is no more than 60 days past the expiration date at the time the card is presented as proof of identification.
- A document issued by the State of Iowa, including a State university or the U.S. government.

The Bill allows a voter to cast a provisional ballot in certain circumstances when the required proof of identification is not provided. If a voter casts a provisional ballot, the voter has until the Monday following the election to appear before the Absentee Ballot and Special Voters Precinct Election Board to execute an affidavit.

The Bill requires the Department of Public Health to provide, free of charge, a certified copy of a birth certificate to an individual who has executed an affidavit stating that the birth certificate is needed for obtaining an Iowa nonoperator identification card for voting. The Bill also allows a person to receive a nonoperator identification card for voting purposes from the Department of Transportation (DOT) free of charge.

Background and Assumptions

- Persons most likely impacted by HF 95, from a State fiscal impact perspective, would include a combination of the following general characteristics:
 - A person who is an active voter.
 - A person who does not have a birth certificate or any other form of identification required to be issued a nonoperator identification.
 - A person who votes in-person at the polls or vote an absentee ballot in-person.
 - A person who does not possess a photo identification issued by the State of Iowa or the U.S. government.
- The cost of a certified copy of a birth certificate is \$15.

The cost of a DOT-issued nonoperator identification card is \$5 and is valid for five years. The DOT has stated they anticipate that persons routinely purchasing and renewing nonoperator identification cards at a cost of \$5 will request the identification cards for voting purposes and receive the cards at no charge.

- There are 2.2 million licensed drivers in Iowa aged 18 and over.
- There are 2.1 million registered voters in Iowa. Approximately 53.0% (1.1 million) of registered voters vote in nonpresidential general elections and 71.0% (1.5 million) vote in presidential general elections.

- In the 2010 general election, 359,113 persons cast votes via absentee ballot. This represents 35.0% of the total votes cast.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact of HF 95 cannot be determined as the number of persons required to purchase nonoperator identification cards cannot precisely be determined. However, the fiscal impact is not expected to be significant as most registered voters have driver licenses and persons without photo identification will continue to have the option to vote via mail-in absentee ballot.

Sources

Department of Transportation
Iowa Secretary of State

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

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The fiscal note for this bill was prepared pursuant to **Joint Rule 17** and the correctional and minority impact statements were prepared pursuant to Iowa Code **Section 2.56**. Data used in developing this fiscal note, including correctional and minority impact information, is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.
